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PART II.

Notifications by the Govt. of India: Resident: Chief Judge, &c.

No. 125, Met.—27-8.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department (Meteorological),—dated Simla, the 19th September 1884.

Read—

Summary of the Weather Reports for August 1884.

Except at a few stations in the north-west of India the barometer has been generally low in the past month. The depression has been most strongly marked in Orissa, Ganjam, and the Central Provinces in the east, and in Guzerat and Sind in the west. Otherwise, with the single exception, shortly to be noticed, the relative distribution of pressure has been fairly in accordance with that which is usual at the time of year. In August there exists, as a general rule, a broad band of relatively low barometer stretching from the Indus Valley south-eastward to Behar, but, in the present month, this normal band was divided into two portions and formed two distinct areas of low pressure, one lying over Behar and Chutia Nagpur, the other over the Indus Valley. This change in the distribution of pressure coincided with a considerable variation of the winds from their normal character and consequently of the weather of Northern India.

Of travelling cyclonic disturbances, such as usually appear during the summer monsoon, there have been no examples of importance during the present month.

Temperature has been a little above the average at most of the Carnatic and Deccan stations and locally at a few places in Northern India also, but in general the temperature of the month has been below the average. In the Punjab and North-Western Provinces the changes of temperature have been sudden and considerable, but in other parts of the country the departures from the mean have as a rule been slight and gradual.

The humidity of the atmosphere has been slightly in excess over Northern and Central India, but in the peninsula the amount of moisture has shown either a slight deficiency, or, as on the Bombay coast, an almost exact agreement with the average.

The rainfall returns display considerable variations in the amount of precipitation. In the Punjab, with the exception of Murree, Rawalpindi, Simla, and Delhi, there has been more or less deficiency on the average, while over nearly the whole of the North-Western Provinces, on the contrary, there has been excessive rain. At Allahabad, however, a region of deficient rainfall commences, and from that station eastwards, in Behar, Bengal, and as far as Burma, the present month has been one of general deficiency. Over the central parts of the country the departures from the average were very irregular, ranging from an excess of 12 inches at the stations of Jubbulpore and Sutna to a deficiency of 5 inches at Khandwa. Rajputana, like the Punjab, has had a somewhat scanty rainfall, while Sind and Guzerat, though deficient on the mean of all stations, show irregularities similar in character to those of the more central parts of the country. On the west coast from Ratnagiri southwards, as well as at the inland stations of Belgaum, Mercara, Madura, Salem, and Wellington, the rain-fall has been above the average, but both on the coast to the north of Ratnagiri and at almost every peninsula station to the east of the Ghauts, the amount of rain has been below the average of the month.

The largest total fall in the month has been 42 inches at Mercara, and there were 38 inches at Moulmein, 34 inches at Ratnagiri and Akyab, 32 inches at Mangalore, 30 inches at Karwar, and 27 inches at Goa and Simla. According to the data the largest number of wet days, 27, occurred in Burma and on the west coast, while the Central Provinces had 25 and Bengal (excluding Behar) and the North-Western Provinces 23.

Very heavy falls of rain were experienced in the west on the 28th and 29th, and in the North-West Himalaya and neighbouring region on the 7th, 10th, and partially on the 12th.

The following table sums up the rainfall returns under the divisions adopted in the weather summaries previously issued. It will be noticed that the deficiency reported from Behar and mentioned in the text is masked in the table by the excessive rain which has fallen in the North-Western Provinces and similarly the excess which is shown in Bombay, Madras, and Mysore is due to the heavy rain which occurred within a limited portion of the west coast and not to general excess over the whole region :—

Districts.	Average rainfall in August.	Difference of the rainfall of August 1884 from average August fall.
	Inch.	
North and West Punjab	5·20	—0·09
South Punjab, North Western Provinces, and Behar	11·02	+2·24
Assam	14·32	+3·45
East Bengal	16·31	—8·20
Lower Bengal, Orissa	13·46	—5·04
Central Provinces	12·07	+2·60
Rajputana, Central India, and Berars	10·01	+1·39
Sind, Guzerat	5·48	—1·63
Bombay	10·04	+2·25
Madras	6·51	+0·27
Mysore	11·42	+3·86
Ceylon	4·99	—3·80
Burma	22·89	—3·12

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ORDER.—Ordered, that the above Summary be printed in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

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